



**Date:** October 28, 2005  
**To:** Gerald R. Miller, City Manager  
**From:** Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer  
**For:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**Subject:** City Report For Week Ending October 28, 2005

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This *City Report* highlights various activities for the week ending October 28, 2005. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIP #8**

**Personal Preparedness: Be in the Know! Five Days of Self-Reliance!  
Elements to an Emergency Preparedness Plan**

Attend the Community Disaster Preparedness Forum on **Saturday, October 29**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Long Beach Convention Center, Promenade Ballroom. Participants will hear from 25 City departments and Long Beach agencies about the status of the city's emergency preparedness. Participants can learn how to reduce household hazards; talk to local decision makers and meet experienced first responders, and learn how to be self reliant to make Long Beach neighborhoods safer during an emergency. The event and parking are free.

For a complete guide to planning and preparation for an emergency, visit [www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov).

**NEWS UPDATE**

**Long Beach Airport**

On October 26, at 3:06 a.m., the Long Beach Airport Safety Office received a nonspecific bomb threat. The Airport Terminal was completely shut down until the investigation was completed. The LBPD canine unit was on scene to assist within 20 minutes. Passengers were directed to the Airport's remote parking lots, nine flights were delayed and one was cancelled. A Command Post was established at Lakewood and Wardlow. LBPD, LA Sheriff Bomb Squad, LA County Canine and LAPD canine searched the Airport's property. Police did not report finding any explosive devices. Passengers were taken by shuttle to the terminal when it opened at 7:30 am. The FBI is continuing its investigation.

## **MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS**

### **City Manager**

The City of Long Beach honored its women leadership as it participated in the Governor's Conference for Women on Thursday. The City had three booths that highlighted Long Beach. One booth was a welcoming booth with information on what do when you visit Long Beach. This booth displayed pictures of the Mayor, the Councilwomen, the Assistant City Manager and Deputy City Manager, and women Department Heads. Another booth emphasized Long Beach as a city in which to *work, live and play*; and the third booth displayed economic development opportunities. The Conference was sold out with an anticipated 11,000 people attending.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau**

Halloween Carnivals will be held at 14 of the City's local parks on **Monday, October 31**, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Youth will enjoy spooky mazes, bouncers, activities, cakewalk, and arts and crafts. A total of more than 2,000 youth and family members are expected to attend.

### **Other News**

The Governing Board of South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) will meet on **Friday, November 4** for a *Mobile Board Meeting* at Long Beach City Hall. The public meeting will be conducted from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., with public comment beginning at 11:30. AQMD is seeking participation from community leaders to better understand and to create solutions to air pollution in the region. Visit [www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov) for details. For anyone who would like to attend, please R.S.V.P. before Tuesday, November 1, to Leann Levine, at [leann@nakatomipr.com](mailto:leann@nakatomipr.com) or by calling 310.914.5000.

### **Community Development, Public Works**

The Long Beach Bikestation will celebrate the grand opening of its new state-of-the-art indoor facility at the Promenade, 221 East First Street, on **Friday, November 4** with a ceremony between 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. The original Bikestation opened in March 1996 as an 18-month demonstration project and has remained a unique amenity in Downtown, providing attended bicycle parking, on-site repair, rentals, and a bike accessories retail shop during regular business hours plus 24-hour bicycle storage. The Bikestation is owned by the City of Long Beach and resides on Redevelopment Agency-owned property. Bikestation Coalition, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting bicycle transportation and serving cyclists, operates the facility. Funding for the project was provided through a grant from the State of California's Bicycle Transportation Account with matching funds provided by the Redevelopment Agency.

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau**

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Long Beach Veteran's Day Parade, complete with marching bands, drill teams, equestrian units, and a special recognition of the men and women of the California National Guard, will be held on **November 5**. The parade will travel south on Atlantic Avenue, from Harding Street to 56<sup>th</sup> Street, and will loop north on Atlantic to Houghton Park, 6301 Myrtle Ave.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS (continued)**

### **Health and Human Services**

The City of Long Beach is developing a strategic plan, *Within Our Reach: A Community Partnership to End Homelessness*, to prevent and to end homelessness in Long Beach. A series of community Focus Group meetings are being held to obtain public input. The next focus group meeting is on **November 7**, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., at St. Mary Medical Center, 1050 Linden Avenue. Call 570.4275 for details.

## **AWARDS**

### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau**

The bureau received special recognition from ChildNet Youth and Family Services, a nonprofit agency that provides residential treatment facilities for abused, neglected, and troubled boys ages 11 – 17, at its 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Board of Directors Meeting held on October 25. The *Platinum Angel* award was given in recognition of the funding provided through the Nonprofit Assistance Program Grant for facility improvements, which included: bringing two locations into ADA compliance, building additional classrooms, and repairing the roof of the school.

### **Fire**

On October 23, the RESCUE Youth program celebrated a graduation ceremony at Shoreline Park. The RESCUE Youth program is a cooperative effort between the LA County District Attorney's Office, and the Long Beach and LA County Fire Departments to mentor at-risk youths in local communities. At-risk youth are those who are at risk of becoming involved in gangs. In the program, firefighters pair up with the youth in an effort to improve the youth's self-image, motivation, and self-confidence. More than 60 youth have graduated from the Long Beach program since 1998.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

### **Police**

Citywide, Police Officers responded to 716 priority one, 1,466 priority two and 1,148 priority three calls for service, for a total of 3,330 calls.

In response to ongoing complaints regarding prostitution activity in the area of Pacific Coast Highway and Golden Avenue, the Vice Detail conducted a "John Program." Undercover female officers were utilized during the operation, which resulted in 12 arrests and seven vehicles were impounded.

The Police Department would like to encourage citizens to call the Gang Hotline to report gang activity, 1.866.426.4847. To report graffiti, call 570.2773. Callers will remain anonymous.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)**

### **Police**

Have you seen the traffic safety banners throughout the city? The Police Department encourages pedestrians and bicyclists to walk and ride more safely. A recent study ranked the City of Long Beach fourth highest in pedestrian-related accidents compared to 13 cities of like size. In addition, the City was ranked second highest in accidents involving bicyclists and highest involving bicyclists under 15 years of age. To combat this problem, the Police Department applied for and received grant funding from the California Office of Traffic Safety. The two-year program is designed to raise public awareness through education and enforcement in hopes of reducing both pedestrian and bicyclist-involved collisions.

### **Civil Service and Police**

During the two-month period beginning August 19 and ending October 19, Civil Service received a total of 1,617 applicants for police recruit.

### **Fire**

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,477 emergency calls for service: 82 calls for fires, of which 7 involved structures; and 439 emergency medical calls, of which 304 required paramedics.

## **NEIGHBORHOODS**

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau**

Construction of the men's and women's locker rooms, and work on the ceiling within the pool enclosure at Silverado Park pool is underway.

Work on the renovations at Blair Field is continuing.

### **Community Development, Redevelopment Agency**

More than 100 homeowners in the North Long Beach Redevelopment's Lindbergh School Neighborhood Enhancement Area attended informational workshops about Community Development Home Improvement Rebate Programs and Residential Rehabilitation Loans on October 22 and October 25, at Lindbergh Middle School. A total of 18 applications were collected. Until April 1, 2006, eligible Lindbergh School area property owners may apply for the Home Improvement Rebate Program (reimbursements up to \$2,000) and the Security Lock (voucher for up to \$300) and Security Lighting Programs (reimbursements up to \$500.) In coordination with the Neighborhood Services Bureau, the Redevelopment Agency has reimbursed over two million dollars to 1,073 North Long Beach homeowners for home improvements since March 2000. For more information, please call Kathleen McCleary at 570.6065 or e-mail [Kathleen\\_McCleary@longbeach.gov](mailto:Kathleen_McCleary@longbeach.gov).

### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau**

On October 24, an informational workshop on the Long Beach Airport was held. Approximately 15 residents learned about the new webtrack system, free tours, volunteer opportunities and the interesting history of the airport. For more information on free tours and volunteer opportunities, please call 570.2679.

### **NEIGHBORHOODS (continued)**

#### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau**

On October 13, staff hosted its quarterly mixer and celebrated Long Beach's cultural diversity with over 30 residents and the City's Human Dignity program. Residents gathered from various sections of the city to share their dishes representing the diversity of Long Beach. Participants were provided with materials and an interactive activity that encouraged cultural knowledge and understanding. Free door prizes donated by the Museum of Latin American Art were distributed.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau**

On October 22, 63 children enjoyed a creative and creepy day at Rancho Los Cerritos' first *Child's Haunted Garden*, as part of October is Arts Month. The afternoon included an art project made from items found on a scavenger hunt through the historic gardens, pumpkin or gourd painting, the creation of scary headbands, and spooky stories by Rancho volunteer Marcia Harris. Friends of Rancho Los Cerritos sponsored the event.

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau**

On October 22, the Department, in cooperation with Seaport Marina Hotel, hosted Recreation Day for Hurricane Katrina victims. The day was filled with recreational activities for the Hurricane Katrina victims of all ages who are staying at the Seaport Marina Hotel. More than 250 participants attended.

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau**

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Strides for Change, with an estimated attendance of 800, was held in the Queen Mary Event's Park on October 22.

Police Youth Services Fun Run, with an estimated attendance of 150, was held in the Junipero Avenue beach parking lot and on the beach bike path on October 23.

Shipwreck 2005, with an overall expected attendance of 70,000, opened October 7, at the Queen Mary and will continue through October 31.

Warner Brothers, with a cast and a crew of 100, filmed a TV production of *Cold Case* on the Queens Way Bridge on October 27.

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### **OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE**

#### **Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau**

From October 16 through October 22, staff completed a total of 3,160 service calls. This total included 813 Gas and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 626 Turn Offs. During this period, 1,450 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 271 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 892 emergency phone calls that resulted in 118 emergency orders being sent out.

#### **Public Works, Street Improvements**

Contact: 570-5160

Anaheim St.                      Alamitos Ave to St. Louis Ave.

Clark Ave.                      Spring St. to Wardlow Rd.

**Estimated Completion: November 2005**

Del Amo Blvd.                      Los Angeles River to Long Beach Blvd.

Artesia Blvd.                      West of Long Beach Blvd. to Harbor St.

Atlantic Ave.                      North of Artesia Blvd. to a point North of 68th St.

Cherry Ave.                      North of Artesia Blvd. to 70th St.

Artesia Blvd.                      East of Obispo Ave. to Downey Ave.

**Estimated Completion: December 2005**

#### **Long Beach Water, Alley Service Lateral Conversion**

Contact: 570. 2326

Cedar Ave.                      E. Burnett St. to Hill St.

Chestnut Ave.                      E. Burnett St. to Hill St.

Pasadena Ave.                      E. Burnett St. to Pacific Electric Railroad

Linden Ave.                      E. Burnett St. to 25<sup>th</sup> Way

**Estimated Completion: April 2006**

GRM: KP: arc

cc:                      Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager  
                            Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager  
                            Suzanne Mason, Deputy City Manager  
                            City Manager Department Heads  
                            Tom Modica, Manager of Government Affairs  
                            Jyl Marden, Assistant to the City Manager